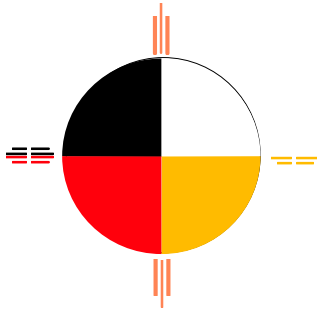


Transitions 2002

An Update to Indian country from the
Restructuring Initiative Workgroup



The Charge and the Challenge

The Charge

Working to make health service better for the people back home is the common message of Tribal Leaders participating on the Restructuring Initiative Workgroup. The Workgroup, formed in February 2002, is the second Tribally-dominated effort charged by IHS Director Dr. Michael H. Trujillo to "identify changes to the design of the Indian health care system that will best enable accessible and acceptable health care services for American Indians and Alaska Natives during the next 5 years."

- 1
 - 2 This Workgroup will draft recommendations and propose them to the IHS and Indian people for consideration by June 1. The first restructuring effort was an
 - 3 18-month process from 1995-1997 that started soon after Trujillo was confirmed
 - 4 as the IHS Director.
 - 5 The earlier process was lead by the Indian Health Design Team (IHDT), a Tribal/Federal group of Indian health leaders, and resulted in 40
 - 6 recommendations that were submitted to Indian health stakeholders for review and feedback.
- The 1995-97 process continued to be the source for many of the decisions related to organizational and structural changes and/or new ways of doing business that have occurred within the Indian health care system since 1995.

Healthcare systems must respond to change, the focus of this change is usually on the organization and financing of healthcare. Dr. Trujillo asked the new restructuring workgroup to review the whole picture of Indian health in today's environment and with consideration for future changes. The new workgroup is focusing on proposing recommendations that will position the Indian health care system to meet challenges for the next 5 years.

The Challenge

The Restructuring Workgroup must address the question: How will the operators of Indian healthcare programs continue to provide health care to the first Americans in a changing environment? It has been 6 years since the first stakeholder-owned redesign of the Indian healthcare system. It is a good time for Tribes and the IHS to reassess health needs and the healthcare delivery system, chart a transition course to keep up with current and expected changes and challenges, and pursue or create opportunities to address the challenges.

Inside this issue:

The Charge & Challenge

Timeline & Milestones

Workgroup Membership

Range of Possibilities

How to Contact Us

Special points of interest:

?? Working to make health service better for people back home

?? Submit your views about how Federal, Tribal, and Urban operators continue to provide health care for the First Americans

?? Contact Names & Addresses

?? How to Submit Your Views

?? Visit the www.ihs.gov website for more information

Restructuring Workgroup Members

Aberdeen Area Representative:

Gregg Bourland, Chairman
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe
P.O. Box 590
Eagle Butte, SD 57625
(605) 964-4155
Fax (605) 964-4151
eaglewatc@rapidnet.com

Alaska Area Representative:

Paul Sherry, CEO
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium
4141 Ambassador Drive
Anchorage, AK 99508
(907) 729-1900
Fax (907) 729-1901
psherry@anthc.org

Albuquerque Area Representative

Joseph A. Moquino, Council Member
San Juan Pueblo
5300 Homestead Road NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110
(505) 248-4777
Fax (505) 248-4115
jmoquino@abq.ihc.gov

Bemidji Area Representative:

Sandra Ninham, Council Member
Oneida Nation of Wisconsin
P.O. Box 365
Oneida, WI 54155
(920) 869-4458
Fax (920) 869-4040
sninham@oneidanations.org

Billings Area Representative:

Jami Hamel, Vice-Chairperson
Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribe
P.O. Box 278
Pablo, MT 59855
(406) 675-2700
Fax (406) 675-2806

California Area Representative:

Rosemary Nelson
Modoc Rancheria
Modoc Indian Health Project
321 South Main Street
Alturas, CA 96101
(530) 233-2727
Fax (530) 233-2606
rlenlson@hdo.net

Nashville Area Representative:

Buford Rolin, Council Member
Poarch Band of Creek Indians
5811 Jack Springs Road
Atmore, AL 36502
(251) 368-9136
Fax (251) 368-3757

Navajo Area Representative :

Randall Morgan, Staff Assistant
Navajo Nation Speakers Office
The Navajo Nation
P.O. Box 3390
Window Rock, AZ 86515
(928) 871-7234
Fax (928) 871-7255

Oklahoma Area Representative:

Jefferson Keel, Lt. Governor
Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 1548
Ada, OK 74820
(580) 436-2603
Fax (580) 436-7209
Lt.Gov@chickasaw.net

Phoenix Area Representative:

Velasquez Sneezzy, Vice Chairman
San Carlos Apache Tribe
PO Box "O"
San Carlos, AZ 85550
(928) 475-2361
Fax (928) 475-2261

Portland Area Representative:

Marilyn Scott, Chairwoman
Upper Skagit Tribal Council
25944 Community Plaza Way
Sedro Wooley, WA 98284
(360) 856-5501
Fax (360) 856-3175
usclinic@yahoo.com

Tucson Area Representative:

Francisco Munoz Jr., Tribal Council Member
Pascua Yaqui
7474 South Camino De Oeste
Tucson, AZ 85746
(520) 883-5010
Fax (520) 883-5014
pyit@liveline.com

Tribal Self-Governance Advisory Committee Representative:

H. Sally Smith
Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation
420 Mail Street
Dillingham, AK 99576
(907) 892-2434
Fax (907) 842-4137

National Congress of American Indians Representative:

Tex Hall, President
Chairman, Three Affiliated Tribes Ft. Berthold
404 Frontage Road
Bismarck, ND 58763
(701) 627-4781
Fax (701) 627-4748

National Indian Health Board Representative:

Julia Davis
Nez Perce Tribal Council
PO Box 305
Lapwai, ID 83540
(208) 843-2253
Fax (208) 843-7354

National Council of Urban Indian Health Representative:

George "Mike" Lande, President
1127 Alderson Avenue
Billings, MT 59102
(406) 245-7372 or 7318
Fax (406) 245-8872
ihbb@mcn.net

Federal Representative:

Dr. Kathleen Annette, Area Director
Bemidji Area IHS
522 Minnesota Avenue
Bemidji, MN 56601
(218) 444-0451
Fax (218) 444-0457
Kathleen.Annette@mail.ihs.gov

Federal Representative:

Robert McSwain,
Director, Office of Management Support
12300 Twinbrook Pkwy Suite 625
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 443-6290
Fax (301) 443-2510
Robert.McSwain@mail.ihs.gov

Federal Representative:

Christopher Mandregan, Area Director
Alaska Area IHS
4141 Ambassador Drive
Anchorage, AK 99508
(907) 729-3687
Fax (907) 729-3689
cmandreg@akanmc.alaska.ihs.gov

Federal Representative:

Dr. Doug Peter, CMO
Navajo Area IHS
P.O. Box 9020
Window Rock, AZ 86515-9020
(928) 871-1479
Fax (928) 871-5872
Douglas.Peter@mail.ihs.gov

The Workgroup Membership

Indian Country is represented by the diversity, strength, and talent of 12 Tribal health leaders from each of the 12 IHS Areas and 4 nationally elected leaders of Indian organizations. Four Federal officials--two IHS Area Directors, one IHS Area chief medical officer, and one Headquarters executive--also serve on the Workgroup. The Tribal health leaders elected Joseph A. Moquino, Council Member, San Juan Pueblo, as the Tribal Co-Chair, and Kathleen R. Annette, M.D., Director, Bemidji Area IHS, was appointed by Dr. Trujillo as the Federal Co-Chair.

"We come here with something in common: caring about Indian people."

*Dr. Kathy Annette
White Earth Chippewa
March 7, 2002*

In upcoming meetings, the members will be proposing opportunities, evaluating options, and forming a report to Indian Country and recommendations to the IHS.

In addition to the Workgroup membership that is more representative of Indian Country leaders rather than Federal officials, key stakeholders will also be included in reviewing and recommending any

"The first design team was a sentinel group. It set the groundwork for how IHS conducts work. It was a new process. We learned that IHS was an agency there for us."

*Buford Rolin, Council Member
Poarch Band of Creek Indians
February 5, 2002*

In Dr. Trujillo's opening remarks to the Workgroup members during their first meeting on February 5, he said, "Bring your personal experience and views to the table to share – your diversity is a strength."

The members are approaching their charge in an open-minded manner by viewing "restructuring" within a range of options and possibilities to make the Indian health care system serve American Indians and

Alaska Natives better. In the Workgroup's first two meetings on February 5-7 in Bethesda, MD, and March 5-7 in Scottsdale, AZ, the members confirmed their charge, reviewed the appropriate-

changes that would affect them. The purpose of this inclusive process is to assure a way of addressing stakeholder-owned problems and issues and to provide stakeholder-owned solutions.

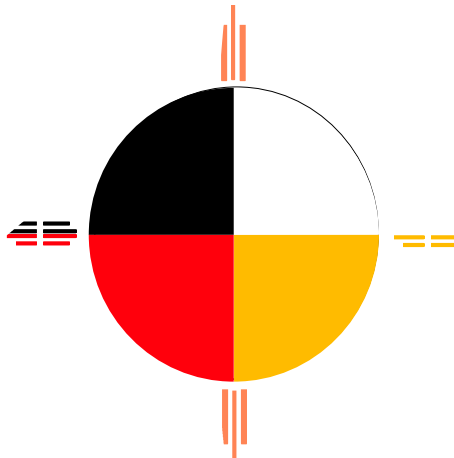
"Ensure that the systems out in the communities benefit the patient."

*Gregg Bourland, Chairman
Cheyenne River Sioux
March 5, 2002*

ness of the current IHS foundation, mission, and goal statements, and discussed the changes in Indian health care and the challenges that the environment will bring during the next 5 years.

"When Indian people back home have problems, they go to their Tribal Chairman. So we have to be Tribal leaders that are intent on representing the Indian people back home who need and get the health care."

*Felix Ike, Chairman
Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone
March 6, 2002*



You can contribute, too, by contacting any of the Workgroup members on page 4 or by visiting the IHS website at <http://www.ihs.gov/nonmedicalprograms/ihdt2/>



Website for
information



WWW.IHS.GOV

?? Select: Nation-wide Programs

?? Select: Restructuring Initiative



Mail comments
suggestions to:



**Any of the Workgroup
Members on page 4**



E-Mail comments
suggestions to:



RIW@MAIL.IHS.GOV

DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Suite 440
Public Health Service
Indian Health Service
Rockville, MD 20852

Official Business
Penalty for Private Use \$300

Address Correction Requested